General Assembly

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Agenda item 23 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/58/L.2 and Add.1)*]

58/5. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision to include in its agenda an item entitled "Sport for peace and development" and a sub-item thereof entitled "International Year of Sport and Physical Education",[1]

Considering the role of sport and physical education as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Acknowledging the major role of the United Nations, its funds and programmes and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other specialized agencies, in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through its country programmes,

Taking note of the communiqué issued by the round table of ministers responsible for sports and physical education, held in Paris on 9 and 10 January 2003, in which they expressed their commitment to ensuring that the role of physical education and sport is fully recognized and developed,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on children entitled "A world fit for children"[3] stressing that education shall be directed to the development of children's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential,

Recalling also the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization[4] and the Dakar

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[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 2nd meeting (A/58/PV.2), and corrigendum.

[2] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[3] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[4] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twentieth Session, Paris, 24 October–28 November 1978*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum in April 2000,[5] as w
as other relevant documents emphasizing the role of sport and physical education

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force
Sport for Development and Peace,

Noting that sport and physical education in many countries face increa
marginalization within education systems even though they are a major tool not
for health and physical development but also for acquiring values necessary
social cohesion and intercultural dialogue,

Acknowledging with concern the dangers faced by sportsmen
sportswomen, in particular young athletes, including, inter alia, child lab
violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative form
commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as
premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cul
ties,

Recognizing the need for greater coordination of efforts at the internat
level to facilitate a more effective fight against doping, and noting in this regar
Anti-Doping Convention established by the Council of Europe,[6] the Copenh
Declaration on Anti-doping in Sport, adopted during the World Conferenc
Doping in Sport, held from 3 to 5 March 2003, and any other relevant internat
instrument,

1. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations, its funds and programme
specialized agencies, where appropriate, and sport-related institutions:

(*a*) To promote the role of sport and physical education for all
furthering their development programmes and policies, to advance health awar
the spirit of achievement and cultural bridging and to entrench collective value

(*b*) To include sport and physical education as a tool to contribute to
achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those con
in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[7] and the broader aims of develo
and peace;

(*c*) To work collectively so that sport and physical education can p
opportunities for solidarity and cooperation in order to promote a culture of
and social and gender equality and to advocate dialogue and harmony;

(*d*) To recognize the contribution of sport and physical education to
economic and social development and to encourage the building and restora
sports infrastructures;

(*e*) To further promote sport and physical education, on the basis of
assessed needs, as a tool for health, education, social and cultural developmen

(*f*) To strengthen cooperation and partnership between all actors, inc
family, school, clubs/leagues, local communities, youth sports associatio
decision makers as well as the public and private sectors, in order to
complementarities and to make sport and physical education available to ever

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[5] Ibid., *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000*, Paris, 200
[6] Council of Europe, *European Treaty Series*, No. 135.
[7] See resolution 55/2.

(*g*) To ensure that young talents can develop their athletic potential without any threat to their safety and physical and moral integrity;

2. *Encourages* Governments, international sports bodies and sport-related organizations to elaborate and implement partnership initiatives and development projects compatible with the education provided at all levels of schooling to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Invites* Governments and international sports bodies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations to develop strategic partnerships with the range of stakeholders involved in sport, including sports organizations, sports associations and the private sector, to assist in the implementation of sport for development programmes;

5. *Encourages* Governments and the United Nations system to seek new and innovative ways to use sport for communication and social mobilization, particularly at the national, regional and local levels, engaging civil society through active participation and ensuring that target audiences are reached;

6. *Stresses* the need for all parties to cooperate closely with international sports bodies to elaborate a "code of good practice";

7. *Invites* Governments to accelerate the elaboration of an international anti-doping convention in all sports activities, and requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, to coordinate the elaboration of such a convention;

8. *Decides* to proclaim 2005 as the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and invites Governments to organize events to underline their commitment and to seek the assistance of sports personalities in this regard;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the preparation of events at the national and international levels to celebrate the year 2005, under the sub-item entitled "International Year of Sport and Physical Education".

52nd plenary meeting
3 November 2003